

South Dakota ANNUAL ROW CROP SUMMARY

News Release

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SOYBEANS AT UNPARALLELED LEVEL

SIoux FALLS, JANUARY 12, 2000--The major story for the 1999 crop year was the dramatic increase in soybean acreage. It was up 650,000 acres from last year, a 19 percent increase. Some of this increase was reflected in corn acreage being down 8 percent from 1998. First-time proso millet estimates are also included in this release. This was according to year-end estimates compiled and released by USDA's South Dakota Agricultural Statistics Service.

Soybean production, at 146.52 million bushels, was 10 percent above last year's production. The yield was 36 bushels per acre, down 3 bushels from last year's record. Harvested acres, at 4.07 million, were up 20 percent from 1998. Planted acres, at a record 4.10 million, were up 19 percent from 1998.

Corn production, at 367.25 million bushels, was down 15 percent from 1998. Yield, at 113 bushels per acre, was down 8 bushels from last year's record. Producers harvested 3.25 million acres for grain, down 8 percent from 1998. Planted acres, at 3.60 million, were down 8 percent from 1998.

Sorghum production, at 4.64 million bushels, was down 53 percent from 1998. This decrease in production was due to a lower yield and a higher percentage harvested for silage or grazed. Yield, at 58 bushels per acre, was 13 bushels below last year. Harvested acres, at 80,000, were down 43 percent from 1998. Planted acres, at 200,000, were unchanged from last year.

All sunflower production, at 1,302.26 million pounds, was 14 percent below last year's record. Yield, at 1,431 pounds per acre, was down 200 pounds from last year's record. Planted and harvested acres were 920,000 and 910,000, respectively. **Oil sunflower** production, at 1,232.66 million pounds, represented 95 percent of the total. It had a yield of 1,430 pounds per acre with 862,000 acres harvested. **Non-oil sunflowers** had a yield of 1,450 pounds per acre with 48,000 acres harvested.

Proso millet production was 4.80 million bushels with a yield of 32 bushels per acre. Harvested acres, at 150,000, compared to 170,000 acres planted.

All hay production was 9.44 million tons, up 16 percent from last year. Yield was 2.36 tons per acre. Acres harvested was unchanged from 1998 at 4.00 million. **Alfalfa** production, at 6.72 million tons, represented 71 percent of the total. It had a record yield of 2.80 tons per acre. Harvested acres are the same as last year at 2.40 million. **Other hay** had a yield of 1.70 tons per acre.

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